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They find⁴⁸ an enzyme in spermatophytes and pteridophytes generally, which decomposes H_2O_2 energetically, with the evolution of O_2 . When this enzyme is destroyed or its action inhibited, the chlorophyll is quickly destroyed and the plant bleached. They also demonstrated the formation of formaldehyde (when its prompt condensation was prevented) in the immediate vicinity of the chloroplasts. The usual condensation of the $HCOH$ is due, they hold, to the protoplasmic stroma of the chloroplast and not to an enzyme; yet the experiment on which they rely is not conclusive on this point.—C. R. B.

Seeds of Euphorbiaceae.—A study of the development of the seeds of numerous genera and species of Euphorbiaceae has given SCHWEIGER⁴⁹ the following results: The obturator, a tissue which serves for the conduction and nutrition of the pollen tube, is always present. It disappears gradually after fertilization, leaving only a slight remnant which belongs to the placenta and never to the seed. The tip of the nucellus is often much elongated, and until fertilization is effected is often in direct connection with the obturator. The caruncle belongs to the seed, is developed from the outer integument, and serves to separate the seed from the placenta.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Zygospores of Mucor.—According to HAMAKER⁵⁰ the production of zygospores of *Mucor stolonifer*, with proper conditions of moisture and temperature, is dependent only upon the nature of the substratum. The atmosphere should be saturated with moisture and the temperature about 70° F. The substratum used is corn muffin bread, which the baker makes after the following formula: corn meal, 16 pounds; flour, 3 pounds; lard, 3 pounds; salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; eggs, 48; sweet milk, 3 gallons; baking powder, 18 ounces. In a large proportion of cultures zygospores appear in five to seven days.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Germination of pollen.—JOST has succeeded in germinating the pollen grains of various grasses,⁵¹ which have heretofore proved refractory, by growing them under conditions where they can obtain water very slowly from the medium by which it is held. Thus, a starch paste made with only one or two parts of water proved useful; and also parchment paper soaked with a sugar solution. The pollen grains of certain Compositae have also yielded to the latter treatment, but none of the Cichoriaceae or Umbelliferae.—C. R. B.

⁴⁸ USHER, F. L., and PRIESTLEY, J. H., A study of the mechanism of carbon assimilation in green plants. Proc. Roy. Soc. London B. **77**:369-376. 1906.

⁴⁹ SCHWEIGER, JOSEPH, Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Samenentwicklung der Euphorbiaceen. Flora **94**:339-379. 1905.

⁵⁰ HAMAKER, J. I., A culture medium for the zygospores of *Mucor stolonifer*. Science N. S. **23**:710. 1906.

⁵¹ JOST, L., Zur Physiologie des Pollens. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells. **23**:504-515. 1906.